MARVEL®
© 1988 MARVEL ENT. GROUP, INC.
75¢ US
95¢ CAN
263
FEB
UK 50p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

BY DEMONS DRIVEN!

DAREDEVIL®

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

INFERNO CONTINUES

JRJR

DAREDEVIL® Vol. 1, No. 283, February, 1989. (ISSN 0279-8271) Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD COMPANY. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH. NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1988 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price 75¢ per copy in the U.S. and 95¢ in Canada. Subscription rate $9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $11.00 Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL and DAREDEVIL (including at prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of the MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

IS IT POSSIBLE, THAT MAN WAS JUST AN EXPERIMENT--

--THAT FAILED?

WE CAST TWO SHADOWS-- THE ONE THAT FALLS TO THE GROUND AND IS DRAGGED ALONG BY OUR OWN FEET...

...AND THE OTHER THAT FALLS INWARD, DARKENING OUR HEARTS.

EVIL IS A REAL FORCE, AND IT'S GOING TO HAVE ITS WAY WITH SOME PEOPLE.

WHERE DOES THAT URGE COME FROM, THE ONE THAT IS CRUEL, AND HURTFUL...

IS THAT URGE WHY SO MANY CHOSE...

...TO LIVE, TO BE, TO DRINK... ALONE?

THE STAIN THAT IS OUR COLLECTIVE SHADOW...

...IS THAT RED DARKNESS RISING FROM OUR HEARTS AND SPREADING?

OUR OWN SHADOWS, DRAGGING US DOWN, TOGETHER.

DOWN, DOWN UNDER.

CROSS A LINE, MAKE A DEAL.

PERHAPS THERE IS NO ROOM LEFT FOR REDEMPTION.

MAN HAD HIS MOMENTS.

HE WAS NOBLE, AT TIMES.

BUT THE EXPERIMENT FAILED.

THE COLLECTIVE SHADOW CREATES SOMETHING NEW...

W 42

...THE WORLD BEGINS TO BURN, AND A RED RIVER BEGINS TO FLOW...

Blip!

Blip!

Blip!

I'M ALIVE.

I'M ALIVE.

I'M ALIVE...

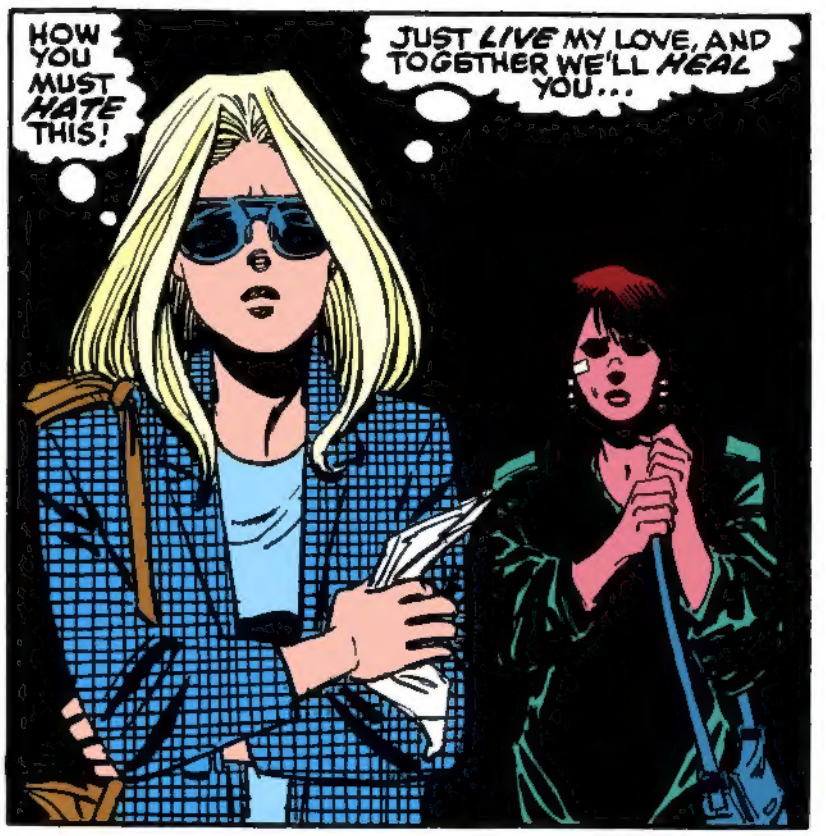
DON'T DIE.

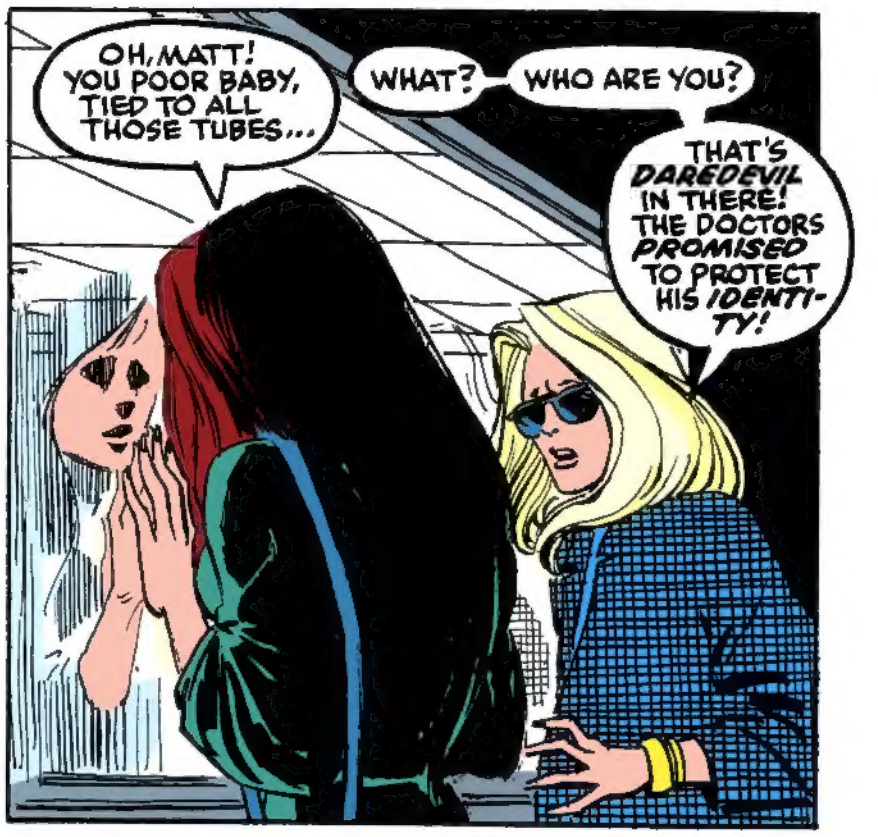
PLEASE LIVE.

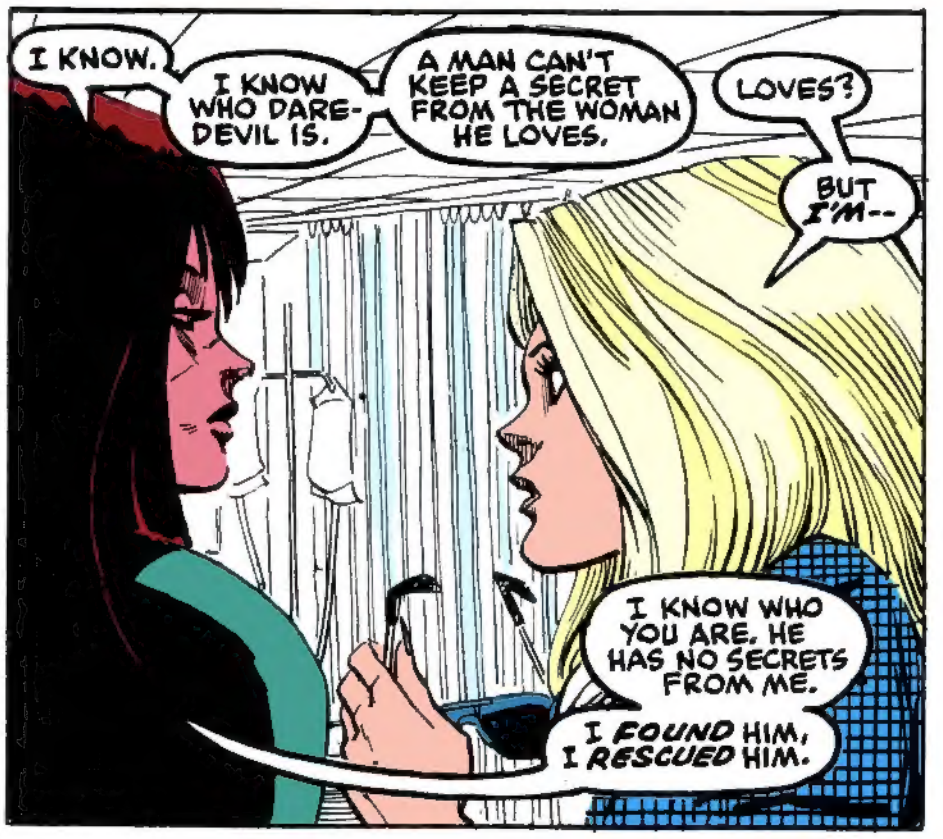
OH, MATT. HOW YOU HATED BEING BLIND, BEING HANDICAPPED.

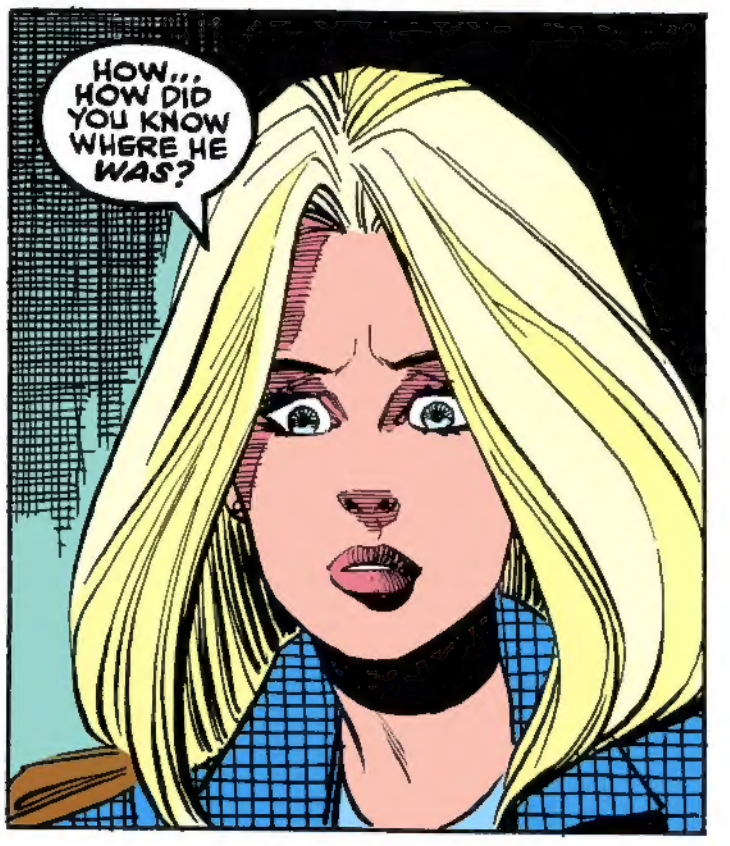
YOU OVER-COMPENSATED BY DEVELOPING ALL THOSE SUPER SENSES.

AND HERE YOU ARE, *VULNERABLE* AGAIN, TIED TO *MACHINES*.

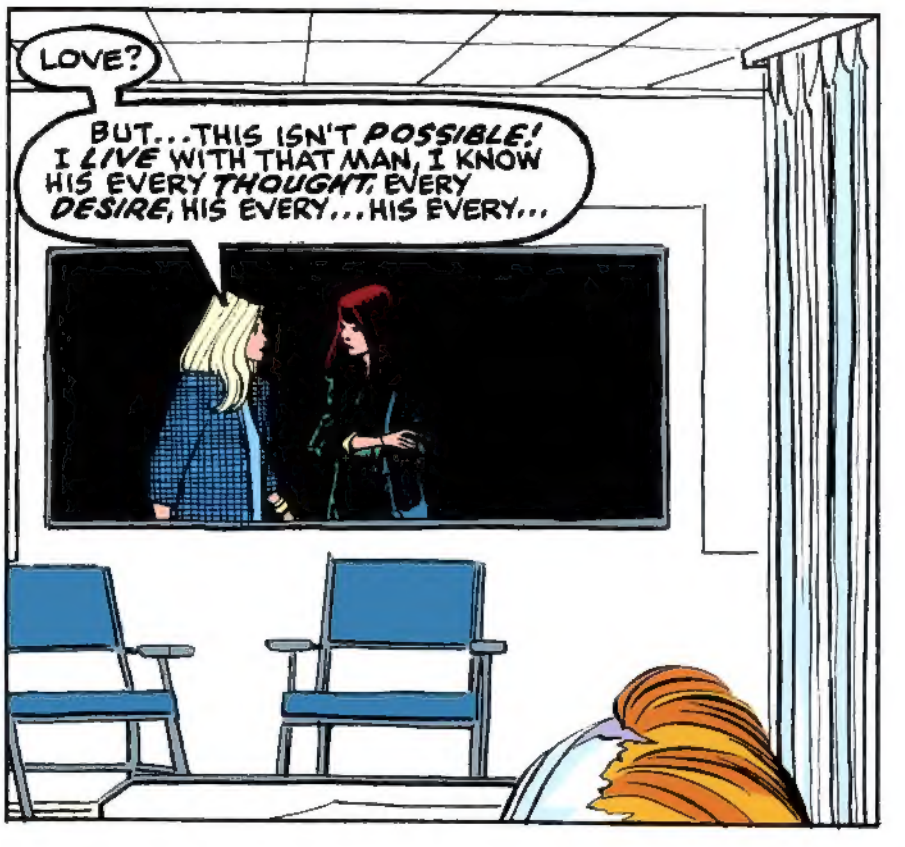

HOW YOU MUST HATE THIS!
JUST LIVE MY LOVE, AND TOGETHER WE'LL HEAL YOU...


OH, MATT! YOU POOR BABY, TIED TO ALL THOSE TUBES...
WHAT?
WHO ARE YOU?
THAT'S DAREDEVIL IN THERE! THE DOCTORS PROMISED TO PROTECT HIS IDENTITY!


I KNOW.
I KNOW WHO DARE-DEVIL IS.
A MAN CAN'T KEEP A SECRET FROM THE WOMAN HE LOVES.
LOVES?
BUT I'M--
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. HE HAS NO SECRETS FROM ME.
I FOUND HIM, I RESCUED HIM.


HOW... HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE HE WAS?

WHEN YOU LOVE SOMEONE, YOU JUST KNOW THESE THINGS, DARLING.


LOVE?
BUT...THIS ISN'T POSSIBLE! I LIVE WITH THAT MAN, I KNOW HIS EVERY THOUGHT, EVERY DESIRE, HIS EVERY...HIS EVERY...

NO!!
MATT! MATT!!
STOP! YOU'LL KILL HIM!
TELL ME THESE ARE *LIES!* TELL ME...!
MARY....
I'M HERE, MATT. I'M RIGHT HERE...
MARKET D
PARKING
EMERGENCY

POIK
POIK
POIK
SWOOSH
SWHHOOSH
GOOD JUNK, THE BEST, THE BEST.
RIGHT HERE, JOHNNY FEELGOOD, THE BEST THE BEST.
HEY, KAREN PAGE!
BEEN A WHILE, BABY.
WHAT BRINGS YOU BACK?
THAT BAD, HUH?
MISS US? BET YOU DID, OH YEAH.
YOU READY TO FLY AGAIN?
OH, YEAH-- LOOKIT HER *SMILE*, NOW...
HEAL...
BEAT HEART
BREATHE
CLOSE WOUNDS
STITCH BONE
PUMP BLOOD
FILL LUNGS
BEAT, PUMP, STITCH, BEAT PUMP STITCH...

THE KINGPIN.

THIS MAN CONTROLS EVERY VICE TRADE IN NEW YORK.

THIS MAN HAS MADE DEALS WITH EVERY LOW-BELLIED USURER, GLUTTON, THIEF, DEALER, PHILISTINE, SADIST, TRAITOR, HYPOCRITE, FORGER, IMPOSTER...

...THIS INCLUDES MANY LAWYERS, SEVERAL GENERALS AND SENATORS, A MAYOR, A DOCTOR, A PRIEST...

ALL MANNER OF MEN, FROM THE FIRST CIRCLE, DOWN TO THE NINTH.

NOT THAT ANY OF THIS CONCERNS HIM. HE DOESN'T BELIEVE IN ACCOUNTABILITY.

BUT SOME SMALL PART OF HIM, PERHAPS, EXPECTED A DAY OF RECKONING.

KINGPIN, SIR! SORRY TO BARGE IN ON YOU LIKE THIS--

--BUT WE HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEMS!

IT SEEMS THE X-MEN, OR SOME SUCH MUTANT VIGILANTE TEAM, WERE FIGHTING A BATTLE--AND LOST!

CRAZY AS IT SOUNDS, SOME CRACK IN SPACE HAS ERUPTED UNDER MANHATTAN--AND DEMONS ARE POURING OUT!

NEW YORK IS BECOMING AN INFERNO!

I KNOW THIS SOUNDS LIKE SCIENCE FICTION, BUT IT'S TRUE!

WORST PART IS, THE DEMONS ARE TAKING OVER--THE LOW LEVEL ONES ARE TAKING OVER THE VICE AND DRUG TRADES, THE HIGHER LEVEL ONES ARE ATTACKING BIG BUSINESS, CORPORATIONS!

WE'RE BEING INFILTRATED, RUINED!

AND... I...I... SIR?

I KNOW ALL THIS, YOU IDIOT.

I EXPECTED IT.

AND I DON'T CARE.

UH...SIR...I...WELL, I...IT JUST...MAYBE ...I...IT'S...DEMONS ...'SCUSE...BUT...

BUT...UPB... YOU...DEMONS... YOUR...SIR...YOUR EYES...I...BE... GOING...I...SORRY... SORRY...SORRY...

UM...UN ...I...I... ULB...GO... GO...GOING ...SIR...

PUMP

BEAT

PINCH HIM!

STITCH

STICK IT!

BITE IT!

PUMP

I WANT ITS HEART!

BEAT

SUCK ITS BLOOD!

STITCH

ITS EYES ARE MINE!

IT'S HERE.

SAY YOUR PRAYERS.

KA-TOOM!

DOOM AND GLOOM.

FIRE AND BRIMSTONE.

THE APOCALYPSE, THE ARMAGEDDON, AND A FEW REVE-LATIONS.

IT'S HERE.

AND DON'T WE DESERVE IT.

I'M SORRY I'M SORRY I'M SORRY!

I'LL CHANGE I'LL CHANGE I'LL CHANGE!

TOO LATE.

"DON'T BE *SORRY*. YOU CAN'T *CHANGE*. WHY ELSE WOULD YOU HAVE *WAITED*--

"--TILL YOU FELT THE *HEAT*, SAW THE *FIRE*, TILL THE FLAMES WERE UPON YOU?

"JUST RELAX--AND *BURN*."

PUMP BEAT STITCH

EAT IT!

BITE IT!

LICK IT!

ONE WOULD THINK THAT DAREDEVIL AND THE KINGPIN ARE POLAR *OPPO-SITES*. THAT THEY SHARE NO COMMON GROUND.

NOT TRUE.

THEY BOTH EXPECTED THIS. THEY BOTH EXPECTED HADES.

LIKE THE KINGPIN, DAREDEVIL IS NOT SURPRISED.

UNLIKE THE KINGPIN--

--DAREDEVIL'S BEEN PREPARING FOR THIS MOMENT ALL HIS LIFE.

OH, PRAISE THE LORD!

THANK GOD--

--DAREDEVIL'S BACK!

HE HEARS THE UNEARTHLY RUMBLE, THE WAIL THAT GRINDS UP FROM A DEEP METALLIC THROAT...

HE KNOWS THAT VOICE. IT'S TIME.

TIME TO BE PURGED BY THE FIRE THAT CONSUMES THE SOUL, NEVER TOUCHING THE FLESH.

AAAIIEEEEYYAA!

EEEAAYAAAEEIII!

WELCOME TO THE *F-TRAIN.*

THE F-TRAIN, MAKING ALL STOPS *DOWN-TOWN.*

WATCH YOUR STEP.

WATCH THE CLOSING DOORS.

NEXT STOP, 42ND STREET.

THE DEMON LAUGHS. ITS LAUGHTER MAKES SENSE. THE DEVIL IS NOT WITHOUT *HUMOR.*

THE SUBWAY'S PASSENGERS SCREAM, TILL THE SCREAMS REACH A PITCH THAT RESONATES INTO A WHITE NOISE, A SOUNDLESS SCREAM.

DAREDEVIL ENTERS THE BELLY OF THE BEAST.

AND THE BEAST ITSELF SPITS FIRE, BURNS AND SMASHES A *NEW* TUNNEL--

-- AND DIVES DOWN.

WELCOME TO THE F-TRAIN. NEXT STOP, HELL.

THE PRODIGAL THE AVARICIOUS THE WRATHFUL THE GLOOMY...

THE HERETIC THE CARNAL THE VENAL THE GLUTTON...

THEY'VE ALL ARRIVED.

EVEN THE LAZY THE WEAK, THE HOPELESS THE CARELESS THE ABSENT-MINDED THE RECKLESS THE VENIAL ...EVEN THE INNOCENT.

DAREDEVIL FINALLY GETS HIS HANDS ON THE CONTROLS--

CRACK!

HAH HA HAH

AHAH HA HAHA HAHA

WHAT? WHY IS HE STILL *ALIVE*?!

IS THERE NO EXIT FROM THIS?

NO EXIT, BABY? NO EXIT FROM *WHAT*, MY LOVE?

HMMMM, SUGAR? NO EXIT FROM YOUR OWN *HATE*?

WELL, PUSSYCAT, I GUESS SOMEONE *SAVED* HIM.

SO WHAT?

I *LOVED* KILLING DAREDEVIL.

I'LL KILL HIM *AGAIN*.

NO, I WANT YOU *HERE*. AT ALL TIMES.

STAY AWAY FROM HIM. I'LL PUT YOU ON PERMANENT PAYROLL. YOU JUST STAY *HERE*, WITH *ME*.

OOOO, TRYING TO *BUY* ME? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

ME? YOU WANT TO *TIE* ME UP AND PUT ME IN A *GOLD CAGE*?

TRYING TO *CONTROL* ME?

I WOULDN'T DO THAT IF I WERE YOU, *BABY*.

YOU KNOW DARLING, SWEETIEPIE? YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT *EVIL*?

THEY SAY IT CAN'T HURT YOU, CAN'T TAINT YOU TOUCH YOU HARM YOU.

UNLESS YOU *WANT* IT. UNLESS YOU *LET* IT IN.

WHAT IS THIS, TYPHOID?

HAHAHAHAAH

OH, BABY, DON'T *DO* THAT!

HELLO HELLO

HAHAHAHAHA

I THINK, KINGPIN, THAT *THIS* --IS YOUR *BOSS!*

DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. I HAVE NO BOSS. *I AM THE BOSS!*

NO, LITTLE BOY.

YOU SOLD US SOMETHING YEARS AGO.

A SMALL THING. A TINY SOUL. AN INTANGIBLE WORTHLESS THING--WORTHLESS TO *YOU*, THAT IS.

NO, KINGPIN, *SIR.*

DARLING BABY SUGAR SWEET KINGPIN, *SIR.*

HA HAHAH HAHA

YOU'VE BEEN WORKING FOR US FOR A LONG TIME NOW.

BUT YOU KNOW THAT.

DOWN, DOWN, DOWN.

IT WANTS TO GO DOWN.

THE DENSE, IMMENSE, ENORMITY OF EVIL...

...ITS UNFATHOMABLE WILL, ITS RELENTLESS INTENT...

CAN ANY ONE MAN FIGHT THAT?

A LITTLE SPECK OF A SHREDDED MAN...

CAN HE RIDE THE CREST OF SUCH A BEASTLY WILL...

...AND CHANGE THE COURSE OF THINGS?

THE DEMON TRAIN SCREAMS, ITS VOICE JOINING THAT OF ITS CAPTIVES, AS IS THE WAY, WITH CAPTORS AND CAPTIVES, JAILORS AND THE JAILED--

--AT SOME POINT THEY ARE ONE AND THE SAME.

HEADING DOWN TO THE SAME FUTURE...

CAN A MERE SPECK, A SHREDDED RED THING, A TATTERED SPOT, A PINPRICK OF LIGHT IN THE UNBOUNDED BLACKNESS...

CAN ONE MAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF EVIL?

AND IN THE END, WILL IT MATTER?

THE EXPERIMENT FAILED.

THE GUINEA PIGS FINALLY COMPREHEND THEIR FATE--

--ONLY WHEN THE LAST SHOCK IS DELIVERED AND THEY ARE NUMB...

ONE MAN, ONE PINPRICK OF LIGHT, ONE SMALL AND GOOD ACT--

--GRABS THE DEMON BY THE HORNS AND TWISTS ITS WILL...

AND LIKE WRENCHING AN ARM BACKWARDS--

--SOMETHING SNAPS, AND CHANGES.

UP, UP, UP...

AND THE INNOCENT WILL BE CARRIED ON LIGHT BREEZES, GENTLY FLOATED TO THE GROUND.

WHILE UP ABOVE...

A THOUSAND EYES A THOUSAND TEETH A THOUSAND HORNS AND SPIKES A THOUSAND HORRORS--

--EMBRACE DAREDEVIL.

BA-DOOM!

QUICK SHOTS FOR HOT SHOTS

Want to become a real hot shot? Then, think quick. Think QuickShot.®

Every QuickShot joystick is designed to give you fighter pilot response. Rapid fire control. Pinpoint precision. All the state-of-the-art features you need to control the action. On your terms.

You and your QuickShot react as one. You think it; QuickShot zaps it.

And no matter what video system you own (Nintendo,* Sega,* Atari,* Amstrad,* Commodore,* Apple* and IBM* PCs), we've got a stick that fits your style.

So what are you waiting for? Wrap your fingers around a QuickShot. And become a real live hot shot.

QuickShot by Bondwell®

QuickShot® 15,000,000 SOLD WORLDWIDE

*Registered trademarks of respective companies. © 1988 Bondwell

Bullpen Bulletins

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:
"BEST WAY TO MAKE PEOPLE OF ONE MIND IS BASH THEIR HEADS TOGETHER."
—HULK, THE INCREDIBLE HULK #352

National UNICEF Day

ITEM: As three million volunteers around the country prepare for UNICEF's annual Halloween fund-raising campaign, they're wildly excited to have the full support of the ever-amazing Spider-Man! That's right—the wondrous web-slinger has been designated "National UNICEF Day Safety Chair." In this distinguished new role, Spidey will deliver important Halloween safety tips on nifty posters and bookmarks designed by the ever-talented **John Romita**, and visit special sites in Boston, Chicago, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, and Puerto Rico, where he'll personally help collect money for millions of needy children overseas.

The ol' Web-head is always eager to go to bat for causes that ensure the safety and well-being of kids everywhere. (You're aware, no doubt, that Spidey is an active spokesman for the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, right?) With UNICEF (the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund), every penny, quarter, and dollar collected will go toward providing clean water, health and nutrition, education, immunization, and basic social services to children and their families in developing nations.

(Hey, if you want to help Spider-Man with his UNICEF fund-raising efforts, just call 1-800-648-2300 or write the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, P.O. Box 4000, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10163.)

ITEM: For the second month in a row, we're caught with but a half-page Bullpen Bulletins (waaah!). Don't worry, our priceless Pro: Files will return next month!

CHECKLIST

- ☐ WOLVERINE #4
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #72
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #67
- ☐ D.P.-7 #28
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #263
- ☐ SEMPER FI #3
- ☐ EXCALIBUR #5
- ☐ WOLFPACK #7
- ☐ G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS #18
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDERMAN #47
- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #12
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #41
- ☐ PSI FORCE #28
- ☐ STRIKE FORCE: MORITURI #26
- ☐ TALES OF G.I. JOE #14
- ☐ PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #3
- ☐ SOLO AVENGERS #15
- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #312
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #350
- ☐ MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #71
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #352
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #220
- ☐ CONAN #215
- ☐ G.I. JOE #83
- ☐ THE PUNISHER #16
- ☐ SILVER SURFER #20
- ☐ THE UNCANNY X-MEN #241
- ☐ MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #13
- ☐ JUSTICE #28
- ☐ SAGA OF THE SUB-MARINER #4
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #300
- ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #42
- ☐ THE FANTASTIC FOUR #323
- ☐ IRON MAN #239
- ☐ SPEEDBALL #6
- ☐ THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #147
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #49
- ☐ X-FACTOR #37
- ☐ CLASSIC X-MEN #30
- ☐ CLOAK & DAGGER #3
- ☐ G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSION #6
- ☐ THE 'NAM #27
- ☐ THOR #400

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ 'NAM MAGAZINE #7
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #156
- ☐ CONAN SAGA #21

MARVEL BOOKSHELF

- ☐ MACHINE MAN Trade Paperback
- ☐ MARVEL MASTERWORKS Vol. 5—Spider-Man
- ☐ PUNISHER Graphic Novel
- ☐ MARVEL MASTERWORKS Vol. 6—The Fantastic Four

THE THING CATCHES ITS BREATH...

AND SPITS OUT THE HOT FIRE AND BRIMSTONE...

THE PURGING FLAME THAT BURNS AND SEARS--

--NOT THE FLESH BUT THE SOUL.

WHAT WAS IT HIS MENTOR STICK TOLD THE REDMAN? TO SLAY THE DRAGON. TO ENTER THE DARKNESS IN ORDER TO SEE THE LIGHT.

KRA-

KUUSHK!

THE REDMAN'S CLUB GROWS BIGGER...

AND HE REMEMBERS SOMETHING ELSE STICK TOLD HIM--ABOUT GETTING BIGGER...

...BIGGER THAN ONESELF...

...NOT GOD, BUT LIKE GOD...

AAAAEEEEEIIIAAAAA

EEEYYAAAA!

TRUST IT, TAKE AIM...

AND IT WILL FIND ITS WAY.

FOOM!

THE RECEDING SCAMPERING WAIL, WITH ITS WHINE AND BRITTLE EDGE AND TUCKED TAIL...IS THAT OF A COWARD.

AND AT THAT TIME, HE RESTED.

GIVE ME A CLOTH FOR HIS WOUNDS!
HERE, TAKE MY JACKET...
DAREDEVIL ...HE SAVED US ALL.
WE CAN ONLY *PRAY* HE SURVIVES...
DAREDEVIL!
DAREDEVIL!
YOU'RE BACK!
BUTCH... HAVE I BEEN GONE ...LONG?
OH, YES, *FOREVER!* I MISSED YOU!
HOW ARE ...THINGS? HOW IS... THE WORLD?
IT FELL APART! THINGS ARE ...HORRIBLE!
THE CLINIC?
THE COPS, THEY CLOSED IT!
AND KAREN?
GONE, SHE'S GONE!
THAT MATT MURDOCK--I *HATE* HIM! I THINK HE *BETRAYED* HER! I HATE HIM!
MATT VANISHED TOO, THE ROTTER, THE *COWARD!* AND THE LOFT THEY LIVED IN--IT *BURNED!*
OH, DAREDEVIL-- EVERYTHING'S A MESS! THERE'RE DEMONS CRAWLING AROUND EVERYWHERE!
ALL THE STORES ARE CLOSED... NO BUSINESS-- EXCEPT DRUGS! PLENTY OF DRUGS...
CAN YOU HEAR ME? DAREDEVIL?
DAREDEVIL, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
NO, BUTCH...
NO, I'M NOT.

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: editor — MARC SIRY: assistant editor
% MARVEL COMICS GROUP-387 Park Avenue South-New York, New York-10016

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Advocate,

Wonderful—I loved issue #257 so much, I pushed it on a friend to read, so now I can't refer to it. Here's what I remember:

The art was insatiable. As a learning cartoonist, I add another name to my list of idols; Boris Vallejo, Frank Frazetta, Larry Elmore, and J.R. Jr. Keep it up!

Kingpin was startling. I figure (I hope) his size is very symbolic and not wholly real. It represents the awe he thrusts upon others. Those paws of his are like a grizzly's, his height like the Eiffel Tower, and his mass is like Jupiter!

I also enjoyed the Punisher's soliloquy when he shot the druggies, and how similar it sounded to the weight-lifter's self-reflection when he was pumping iron. Both men were talking about death, murder and such, and justifying it.

The clash of our hero and the Punisher was great, but it bothered me. I'm not very familiar with the Punisher, but Daredevil and I go back a long way. Both of their fighting structures were horrible. If I could have coached either at the time, the fight would have been brief. Please teach DD and his artists some of the martial arts.

Oh, and keep Typhoid Mary around for another dozen issues. Her legs alone are a work of art!

Jerry Freidman
UPB #3930
Univ. Park, NM 88003

Hmm, *you* might think her legs alone are a work of art, Jerry, but personally, we prefer them attached to the rest of her body. Call us old-fashioned. As for the Daredevil/Punisher battle techniques. . .

Marvel,

I think you guys are doing a great job with DAREDEVIL. In issue #257, when DD went against the Punisher, it was great. Some friends of mine told me that Daredevil was a wimp. I told them he was not a wimp—he's one of the greatest heroes that Marvel has ever put out.

Tracy Grapes
Kannapolis, NC
(full address withheld)

Daredevil a wimp? Gee, we never really thought about it, Tracy. If your friends mean that anyone not as bulky as Thor or as strong as the Hulk is a wimp, I guess we might have to concede, but we think that DD is one of the most powerful heroes because he *does* have only the basic "strength of a normal human who engages in intensive regular exercise." Sure, DD isn't as *strong* as the Hulk — but we seem to remember old red-pants kicking someone's familiar green genes but good a couple of times in the past so badly, that now he's going around in a grey disguise! Daredevil constantly goes toe-to-toe with foes who are stronger, faster and far deadlier than he, yet always (well, until recently) has come out on top. Don't know about *you*, but that puts him pretty high on *our* wouldn't-like-to-call-him-a-wimp-to-his-face list.

Dear Daredevil Crew,

I just read issue #257 and I felt that I had to write and tell you how incredible I thought it was. I think I liked it better than #228, which was, until now, my all-time favorite issue. Ann Nocenti is a terrific writer and all the new and original villains that she creates are a refreshing change from the old bad guys that appear more than they should in some of the other titles. Don't get me wrong, I like Juggernaut, Doctor Octopus, Doctor Doom and the others, but I prefer Bushwacker, Bullet and Typhoid Mary.

I noticed one small mistake—on page 18 it says that one of the Punisher's arms is useless, and on page 19 he uses his knife with his left hand. Then, on page 22 Punisher's gun is shown falling from his right hand. One of his arms is useless, but then he uses both arms. My explanation for this is that sometime between pages 18 and 22 the Punisher's arm healed enough for him to pull a gun on DD but it was still very weak, so Daredevil was able to disarm him with a kick to the stomach.

Gabe Mansur
67 W. High St.
Avon, MA 02322

"Useless" is a relative term when you're talking about body parts, Gabe, unless they're completely *removed*. In the Punisher's case, the term meant that he couldn't use his arms without intense *pain* and *concentration* — like threading a needle after you've banged your thumb with a hammer. But Frank Castle, the Punisher, is nothing if not an intense individual. Believe us, you don't want to know *how* intense he can be—just ask him to thread a needle for you sometime.

Dear Editors,

Daredevil went all out to defend a young boy who was a victim. The boy lost his sight. The people who were poisoned to death in DD #257 were *victims*. They lost their lives. Where is Murdock now? He sure isn't defending *them*! He's babbling on about justice and the fault of society. What type of lawyer is he? He's a self-righteous bigot!

Greg Blesson
Address withheld by request

While justice doesn't always follow the letter of the law, Greg, as Daredevil himself once said, the only way we have as a society, to define justice is to make laws, and stick to them. They don't always work, but they mostly do. And they're all we've got. As a lawyer, he has a responsiblity to defend individuals by the laws which society defines as just—if for no other reason than to force society to examine what their laws say, and what they should *mean*.

Dear Daredevil,

Ever since I picked up the first issue of DAREDEVIL I've loved it. But I've always been bothered about his kick on justice. Daredevil is one of my favorite heroes, but he just won't give it up. I know his alter-ego Matt Murdock is a lawyer, but even lawyers get mad sometimes!

I don't know much about the New York City in Marvel, but their taxes must be pretty high. With Daredevil putting criminals through the system all the time, it must cost millions!

I have nothing against justice—it's the basis of the American system, but too much is TOO MUCH!

Robert E. Britton
R1 Box 23
Telephone, TX 75488

Call him an idealist, Robert, but Daredevil has never let the average cost of a trial to the taxpayer interfere in his quest for justice.

Dear Daredevil,

I don't really read DAREDEVIL (sorry!) but I picked up #257 and I loved it! When will the Punisher have his very own comic? I'd love it—I love him! And, I may just pick up DAREDEVIL again. Dare ya to bring the Punisher back, you devils!

Brian Nicewander
5629 Anphony Rd.
Va Beach, VA 23455

Can it be? Could you mean. . .you haven't *heard* about the Punisher's own titles, THE PUNISHER and THE PUNISHER'S WAR JOURNAL? You haven't begun to devour your regular double dose of Punisher books, the first on sale monthly, the second on a six-week schedule? Oh well, perish forbid it for us to be the first to tell you. . .we're not given to such unabashed plugs. Not much.

Dear Ann,

After reading PUNISHER #10 and learning that DAREDEVIL #257 would feature another point of view of the same story, I began to feel a bit let down about the DAREDEVIL issue. I felt that both the Punisher's and Daredevil's points of view had been covered very well in the PUNISHER title, I should have known better than to expect anything less than brilliant from Ann. Not only did we get to see how Daredevil's search for a serial killer differed from the Punisher's, but we also got to see this story primarily from the point of view of Alfred Coopersmith, the serial killer.

Like so many people, Alfred Coopersmith was a victim of the influx of computers into our society. Ann did a very nice job of showing the fact that our young people have done well adapting to this, but a lot of older people will never adapt. I hazard to guess that as far as computer literacy goes, there are a lot of Alfred Coopersmiths out there.

Charles S. Novinskie
P.O. Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

A lot? We were kind of uncomfortable with only the one, Charles. Let's hope the others seek counseling—or at least a less destructive form of protest—maybe a giant needlepoint banner. And we can get the Punisher to thread the needle. . .

MINUTEMEN
Syl3nt Bob
Cover and Guts provided by AnEvilScan